



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546



Office of the
Commissioner

May 28, 2013

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The Honorable Andres Ayala, Co-Chair
The Honorable Selim Noujaim, Co-Chair
Regulation Review Committee
State Capitol, Room 011
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Senator Ayala and Representative Noujaim:

Pursuant to Section 4-170 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I submit for your consideration and approval the enclosed regulations entitled "Specific Information Signs and Business Signs on Limited Access Highways".

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to implement a series of changes in policies and practices that updates and allows more latitude in signing for general motorist services and tourist information facilities.

In 2012, the Department of Transportation (Department) created an internal departmental taskforce to review standards, regulations and policies for highway signing along Connecticut roads and highways. The group comprised diverse disciplines including engineering, maintenance, legal, legislative, rights-of-way and the Federal Highway Administration with input from the Connecticut Department of Community and Economic Development's Office of Culture and Tourism. Changes were recommended that are more flexible and more responsive to businesses while remaining consistent with federal guidelines. The changes increase the distances from the ramp termini and relax some of the minimum required hours of commercial operation which will result in more businesses being eligible for motorist service signs. The proposed regulations will enable more businesses to qualify for specific Gas, Food, Lodging and Camping Logo signs along Connecticut's highways. There is a modest application fee increase for businesses wishing to be included in the expanded signing program.

If there are any questions regarding this request, please contact Ms. Pamela Sucato, Legislative Program Manager for the Department, at 860-594-3013.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

James Redeker
Commissioner

Enclosures

cc: Anne Bordiere, OFA
Transportation Committee